

## BOOK REVIEWS

**PLASTIC SURGERY OF THE NOSE**—Including Reconstruction of War Injuries and of Deformities from Neoplastic, Traumatic, Radiation, Congenital and Other Causes—James Barrett Brown, M.D., Professor of Clinical Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis; Chief Consultant in Plastic Surgery, U. S. Veterans Administration; and Frank McDowell, M.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis. With 379 Illustrations including 48 in color. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1951. 427 pages. \$15.

A worthwhile practical clinical book which fulfills the author's hopes that it contain features of interest to those already engaged in rhinoplastic surgery, as well as serve as a useful guide to surgeons, both civilian and military, just beginning this work.

The short introduction and historical note show great restraint. The chapter dealing with the preoperative examination and evaluation of patients for plastic surgery of the nose is concise; yet the subject matter is so well selected and presented that it should be read by not only those who are actively engaged in doing rhinoplastic surgery but by all who have or may have reason to recommend or discuss the problems with this type of patient.

The volume does not present detailed fundamental anatomy of the area. The chapter on preliminary preparations and anaesthesia is so brief and lacking in detail as to be of little real value. The deletion of this material does permit the volume to be of reasonable size and weight and is justifiable on the basis that this knowledge is or should be obtained from the numerous available recognized sources, and experience as part of the surgeon's basic training.

The numerous illustrations showing what can be accomplished by means of rhinoplastic surgery are excellent, both as to selection and reproduction. However, even those for whom the book is intended would appreciate more detail as to how those results were obtained and more information as to how to recognize the many pitfalls which, if not avoided, negate the opportunity to duplicate these most satisfactory results.

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**1951 YEAR BOOK OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY** (August 1950-June 1951)—Edited by J. P. Greenhill, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor of Gynecology, Cook County Graduate School of Medicine. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., Chicago, 1951.

The worthwhile literature in obstetrics and gynecology published from August 1950 to June 1951 is reviewed by Greenhill in the Year Book for 1951. The editorial comments are even more interesting than in previous editions.

While there have been no outstanding advances in the specialty as reported for last year, the chapter on the newborn is outstanding. The obstetrician, pediatrician and pathologist are attacking the problem of prematurity. The increased interest in neonatal pathology with special emphasis on the hyaline membrane and erythroblastosis will undoubtedly effect a reduction in fetal mortality.

The early diagnosis of, and surgery versus radiation in carcinoma of the cervix continues to be debated and the editorial notes are particularly effective in studying this subject.

The Year Book quiz received with the book is an excellent evaluation of one's familiarity with the current literature. The Year Book continues to be an excellent survey of the obstetrical and gynecological writings, and in such capable hands as the editor, Dr. J. P. Greenhill, it will be a handy reference for the busy practitioner and specialist as well.

**THE CHILD IN HEALTH AND DISEASE**—Second Edition—A Textbook for Students and Practitioners of Medicine—Clifford G. Grulee, M.D., Rush Professor of Pediatrics, University of Illinois; and R. Cannon Eley, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard University Medical School. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1952. 1255 pages. \$15.00.

The appearance of a second edition of Grulee and Eley's text only four years after the first bespeaks its popularity and practical usefulness. The list of contributors is impressive in numbers (87) and individual competence. New chapters have been added on adoption, medical supervision of summer camps, cardiovascular surgery (by Potts of Chicago) and viral hepatitis, and the sections on erythroblastosis fetalis and pancreatic fibrosis have been expanded by the addition of much new material into separate chapters. The volume contains a good deal of material not so well or so completely covered, and some that is not found at all in the other American texts. It should be a useful addition to the libraries of pediatricians and general practitioners and valuable to medical students for reference purposes.

There is an excellent index covering 47 pages. Bibliographic references follow the individual sections. There are many illustrations, some in color, most of which are of good quality.

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**THE 1951 YEAR BOOK OF DRUG THERAPY**—Edited by Harry Beckman, M.D., Director, Departments of Pharmacology, Marquette University Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois Street, Chicago 11, 1951. 502 pages. \$5.00.

The Yearbook of Drug Therapy may be recommended once again. It is an excellent means of getting an unbiased evaluation of the work of the past year in the pharmacological field.

Along with its obvious and repeated virtues it has a major defect which should be mentioned: One accepts an arbitrary chronological delimitation for the abstracts in a year book. This means that certain relevant articles must necessarily be omitted because they fall outside the period covered. This is regrettable—but understandable. However, when such articles fall well within the prescribed time limit, there is no excuse for leaving them out. To illustrate: On page 269 the use of aureomycin in hepatic insufficiency is given a big boost by the abstract of Goldbloom and Steigmann's report in *Gastroenterology* for May 1951. But this is the only abstract on this subject despite the fact that other articles have appeared in the literature (notably the most extensive researches of Lepper and his colleagues in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* for July 1951) well within the time limits set for this volume.

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**TEXTBOOK ON REFRACTION**—Edwin Forbes Tait, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Ophthalmology, Temple University School of Medicine. Illustrated, W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1951. 418 pages. \$8.00.

Doctor Tait in his preface states his book is primarily for a student group studying ophthalmology.

Books on refraction compared to books on other phases of ophthalmology are rare. Since it is obvious that refraction is the major part of an ophthalmologist's work more study should be made of refraction and its many ramifications.

This book of 28 chapters and 394 pages covers the subject concisely. It brings us up to date in refraction. It furthermore has a brief discussion of fusional defects and the use of orthoptics.